

Furniture by design

Business Feature
by **Cameron Outridge**

ARCHITECTS are renowned for stretching the limits of design in pursuit of distinctive results. Architect Philip Boorman is no different. Except that he has indulged his passion for design and turned his attention to furniture manufacture - with spectacular results.

His stunning Floating Wedge table was short listed for the Australian Furniture Design Awards in Sydney earlier this year.

Philip's vision of the innovative floating wedge table has come to fruition after years of trial and error. He has travelled the country for research and built several prototypes before settling on a construction that would satisfy his eye for style and his desire for practicality.

"Making furniture is something I have always had a great love of," said Phil. "We went to every furniture exhibition for about two years from one end of Australia to the other for research.

"We wanted our first major design to be something that you couldn't buy anywhere else in Australia - and you certainly can't buy anything that looks like this."

The three-legged dining table uses ground-breaking timber wedges and stainless steel to prevent bowing and to maintain stability.

"These construction details are minimal but visible and form part of the personality of each table," said Philip.

Philip said his team's challenge was to find a way to fuse his design ideas with the practicalities of furniture making but without compromising on quality. To do so he works with the same team of craftsmen who help build his homes.

His tables and chairs are handcrafted on the Sunshine Coast from ethically sourced or rescued timbers and 316 marine grade stainless steel.

Philip's work will be highlighted at the Barung Wood Expo. Phone Philip or Denise Boorman at their Mapleton showroom on 5445 7020.



Phil Boorman inspects his floating wedge table. "Making furniture is something I have always had a great love of."



Phil has designed a set of chairs to match the table. "Actually you have to be insane to get into chair design," said Denise.